

GERMAN DRIVE
ABOUT TO BEGIN

The Great Final Offensive
on Their Part Expected
Any Moment

ALLIES, CONFIDENT,
AWAIT THE SHOCK

Prisoners Say Attack on the
British Will Be Between
Arras and St. Quentin

British Army Headquarters in France, Feb. 19.—(By Associated Press.) The great German offensive on the western front may be expected to begin any moment. As far as the British front is concerned the main thrust will be between Arras and St. Quentin. Tanks and a new mysterious gas will be employed in an attempt to break through the allied line. Other attacks will be delivered further south.

These facts have become known through German prisoners and information gleaned in other ways. The prisoners say that the German troops are skeptical of the success of the undertaking, feeling that they are going to be thrown into battle to be used as cannon fodder.

The officers, however, appear to be confident that they can break through the German line. The allied troops are at the highest pitch, and the coming battles will perhaps be the most sanguine of the war. But they will mark the beginning of the end, for if the Germans do not break clear through the allied lines, and they cannot, they virtually will be finished. If the efforts fail in the early stages it means the end of the Prussian military.

The allied forces have the superiority in numbers, both in men and in guns.

AMERICAN AVIATOR
DEFEATED GERMAN

Drove Opponent's Airplane Down in a
Damaged Condition—Aerial Activ-
ity Increase Over the Amer-
ican Sector.

With the American Army in France, (By Associated Press), Feb. 19.—There has been considerable increase in aerial activity on the American sector since Sunday night. Enemy planes again flew over the town where a few days ago the American field hospital was located and dropped bombs, but without damage. One hostile machine was driven to earth in a damaged condition by an American aviator.

ITALIANS WORRY
THEIR ENEMIES

All Along the Line in Northern Italy
They Are Prodding the Teutons
and Keeping Up Artillery Fire.

Rome, Feb. 19.—Italian troops are showing much activity and are harassing the enemy all along the line. There also has been considerable artillery fighting, according to a report from general headquarters.

WILL TALK PEACE
WITH RUMANIA

Berlin Report Says the Negotiations Will
Probably Begin Friday at Pok-
shani.

Amsterdam, Feb. 19.—A telegram from Berlin says that peace negotiations with Rumania probably will commence Friday when Foreign Secretary Von Kuhlmann likely will arrive at Pokshani.

LOOK AFTER FARM TOOLS.

Now Is the Time to Put Every Farming
Utensil in Working Order.

Farm machinery in recent years has played a very important role in crop production, and this year its place in farm operations is more important than ever before. The proper amount and kind of tools will enable the farmer to work more land and obtain better returns. In fact, the increased use of farm machinery frequently makes it possible to manage the farm with less help. One of the greatest causes of deterioration of farm tools and implements is their exposure to the weather and the failure upon the part of the farmer or laborer to clean them properly before they are put away for the season when they are not in active use. There is a wide variation in the length of life of those farm implements treated properly and those left to rust in the fields. This difference is sufficient to pay high interest on the initial cost of good farm machinery. The lack of proper storage and care during the winter months is responsible for much of the depreciation. This season also is the best time in which to repair machines and put them in proper mechanical condition.

The farmer has everything to gain and nothing to lose by placing his order as early as possible for new machines and repair parts which will be needed next season. If this fact is true in normal times, its importance is magnified many times now that shipments frequently require longer time.

The farmer has been advised times without number concerning the desirability of overhauling farm tools and implements during the slack season. Whether such advice is necessary or whether it is acted upon in normal times is not a question to be considered now. The need for ample machinery, running smoothly and without break-downs in 1918, is more important to the farmer than ever before. To this end steps should be taken this winter.

Marriage License Issued.

A marriage license was issued at the Montpelier city clerk's office to Francis Sanborn of Montpelier and Emma O'Donnell of Barre.

EROSION OF GUNS
WAS CONSIDERED

By Naval Consulting Board in Confer-
ence with the American Institute
of Mining Engineers in Con-
vention in New York.

New York, Feb. 19.—Members of the naval consulting board and high officers in the United States navy met here today in connection with the convention of the American Institute of Mining Engineers for discussion of problems of munition manufacturing related to the mining industry.

One of the special subjects was the erosion, or hardening of the inner surface of big guns, and the government authorities heard a number of expert opinions from mining engineers from various sections of the country.

In its relation to war problems, the American Institute meeting to-day assumed a national character. Some of those whose opinions were received in connection with the munitions problems were Admiral F. E. Fletcher, Rear Admiral R. E. Lee, Peter Cooper Hewitt, Albert Sawyer, R. B. Thayer, Lawrence Aldrich, W. L. Saunders and J. W. Richards, all of the naval consulting board.

Sidney J. Jennings, vice-president of the United States Smelting Refining & Mining Co., was today elected president of the institute to succeed Philip N. Moore of St. Louis. Mr. Moore and Bradley Stoughton, secretary, read executive reports showing the growth in both influence and members for the institute during the past year. The membership now totals nearly 7,000.

The technical problems considered today included several in relation to the petroleum and gas situation. W. G. Matteson, a petroleum geologist, stated that at the present time Louisiana and Texas are producing more oil than in any other time in their history and present indications pointed to an even greater development. After a survey of all the oil and gas fields in Alabama, Denney Hager of Tulsa, Okla., told the engineers that the possibilities of this section for oil and gas production had not been adequately considered. Others who discussed petroleum matters included Carl H. Beal and J. O. Lewis of the United States bureau of mining; Mark L. Trepan, United States petroleum administrator; and F. P. Peterson of Tulsa, Okla.

This morning a technical session on mining and milling was held, ten subjects being presented which covered a large part of the field on this subject. This morning the women's auxiliary of the institute held a meeting, which was presided over by Mrs. Sidney J. Jennings, the president, who is the wife of the president-elect of the institute.

The convention continues here through to-morrow. On Thursday the engineers will journey to Princeton, N. J., to inspect the government aviation school and the university equipment, which includes the Palmer physical laboratory, one of the best equipped buildings of its kind in the country.

AIRPLANES
DRIVEN OFF

Attempt By German Airplanes to Reach
London Failed Last Night Under
Defense Barrage Guns

in the Outskirts.

London, Feb. 19.—The German attempted another air raid on London last night. The attack was a failure as far as the most important was concerned. One of the best equipped buildings of its kind in the country.

There were no casualties or damage from the raid.

CRUISER MONTANA
HAD EXPLOSION

Eight Men Injured By Explosion of Car-
tridge Case During Target Practice
—No Deaths Known.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—Eight men were injured in the explosion of a cartridge case during target practice on the cruiser Montana. A brief report to the navy department to-day carried no details of the explosion.

VON TIRPITZ RAILED.

Against the Very Things Germany Is
Responsible For.

Amsterdam, Feb. 19.—Following is a report in the German Socialist paper Vorwaerts of a speech by Admiral Von Tirpitz at a meeting of the Fatherland party in Essen:

"In Essen, Von Tirpitz told his hearers that no one in Germany, from the highest to the lowest, had incited, or wanted, this war."

"In Essen, Von Tirpitz railed at British munitionism and capitalism. 'Germany flourished only by honest labor,' he said."

"In Essen, Von Tirpitz pleaded for public spirit and unselfishness."

"In Essen, Von Tirpitz thundered against the trust magnates of America and England."

"In Essen, he the Krupp works."

BRITISH GOVERNMENT
SEEMS MORE SECURE

The Tension in the Political World as
Regards Military Affairs Has Re-
laxed Considerably.

London, Feb. 19.—The tension in the political world in connection with military affairs has relaxed considerably, and talk of displacing the government virtually has disappeared.

TWO MEN HELD.

Are Charged with Robbing East Highgate
Man in St. Albans.

St. Albans, Feb. 19.—Warren Lemmah and Fred Burt were arraigned before Judge N. M. Post in municipal court this morning on the charge of robbery from the person of Albert Whiting of East Highgate in this city last Saturday night, and they were held for the March term of Franklin county court, bail being fixed at \$50 for Lemmah and \$500 for Burt. State's Attorney McFeeters represented the state; W. R. Austin appeared for Lemmah, and Rowell M. Austin for Burt.

COUNTER REVOLT
IN PETROGRAD

Is Reported to Have Over-
thrown the Bolshevik
Government

LENINE AND TROTSKY
SAID TO HAVE FLED

Social-Revolutionists Under
Tchernoff Declared to
Be in Control

London, Feb. 19.—Rumors are current in Vasa that the Bolshevik government in Petrograd has been overthrown by social-revolutionists under the leadership of Tchernoff, who was chairman of the short-lived constituent assembly, according to the correspondent of Politiken of Copenhagen, says a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company.

Lenin and Trotsky are said to have escaped to Riga.

Vasa is in Finland on the railway line between Petrograd and the Swedish frontier.

GEN. KALEDINES
KILLED HIMSELF

His Successor Ordered Mobilization of
All Cossacks to Fight the Ap-
proaching Bolsheviks.

Petrograd, Feb. 19.—General Kaledines, leader of the Don Cossacks, committed suicide at the headquarters of the Don Cossacks after the local government had decided to resign and transfer its powers to the local workmen's and soldiers' council. He shot himself. General Nazarov, who succeeded him as leader, ordered the immediate mobilization of all Cossacks to fight the approaching Bolshevik troops.

Dispatches received here indicate that Rumania has perfected an alliance with the Ukrainian government opposed to the Bolsheviks, and a joint army, commanded by General Stecherbachoff, has occupied Kishinev.

During the recent bloody events in Kiev General Tchernoff, former commander of the Russian southwestern front, was killed.

DEPRIVED OF OIL.
MUST SHUT DOWN

Three Great Plants of General Electric
Company Engaged on War Orders
Are in Serious Shape.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—The General Electric company has shortly will have to shut down three of its great plants engaged on war orders because the shipping board's action in taking tank steamers for overseas traffic has cut off the supply of fuel oil.

The situation has been brought to the attention of the shipping board with the request that some arrangement be made immediately for delivering oil supplies to necessary industries.

REGISTRATION IN QUESTION.

A. H. Hirsch Brought From Waitfield to
Montpelier.

Deputy U. S. Marshal George Lackey of U. S. of Waitfield to bring to Montpelier this afternoon a man giving the name of A. H. Hirsch, who had been held in that town pending an examination as to his claim that he had been registered. Hirsch claimed that he registered in Barre and that his card was there; but the officials could not find any record of the registration at the local board's office in Montpelier.

Hirsch had been going under the name of Arthur Hamilton at the Mad River Valley Lumber company's camp in North Fayston, where he had been working. After being taken in charge by Constable Farr he declined to make any statement about himself.

SECRET INQUEST

Being Held in the Case of the Boutah
Girl.

St. Albans, Feb. 19.—A secret inquest was held this morning in the office of State's Attorney W. R. McFeeters by Assistant Judge E. W. Foster in the case against Anna Boutah of Albany Center. The young woman is charged with the abandonment of her child under two years old, so that its life was endangered. Eight witnesses gave testimony to-day. The young woman is held under bail of \$500 for her appearance in the March term of Franklin county court, having been held for that sum at the preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace P. J. Audett in Swanton on Feb. 3.

HARRY DANIELS SUES TWICE.

Sarah Redway the Defendant in the
Actions.

Harry Daniels of East Montpelier has brought suit against Sarah Redway to recover the face value of a \$1,100 mortgage on the so-called "Sleeping Lucey" farm in East Montpelier and he has also sued the same person to recover \$253 on a note.

GORE BILL FAVORED.

Senate Agriculture Committee Reported
To-day.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—The Senate agriculture committee to-day favorably reported the Gore bill to increase the minimum price for wheat of the 1918 crop to \$2.50 per bushel.

WANT AMERICAN HISTORY.

Royal Automobile Club Wants It Taught
in English Schools.

London, Feb. 19.—The Royal Automobile club has passed a resolution urging the teaching of American history in English schools.

MONTPELIER
DRAFT TREATY
SIGNED TO-DAY

Some Interesting Ice Races Were Seen
Yesterday.

The last ice races of the season will take place Saturday, weather permitting. Monday a larger crowd than usual attended an interesting meeting in which a dead heat was raced between Owada and Hesitation. The horses were closely matched but after the first heat Owada was able to capture three straight. Billy Walter, Jr., made his first appearance of the season and did very well considering he is getting along in years and was against Anne Deen, who has been racing the best of the season.

The results were:

Class A.
Anne Deen (Daly)..... 1 1 1
Billy Walter, Jr. (Redell)..... 2 2 2
Time—32 1/2, 34, 32 1/2.

Class B.
Mae R. (Daly)..... 1 1 1
Bradwell Sub (Hill)..... 2 2 2
Time—33, 32 1/2, 32.

Class C.
Owada (Drew)..... 1 1 1
Hesitation (Baker)..... 2 2 2
Time—33, 34, 33, 33 1/2.

Class D.
Queene (Slayton)..... 1 1 1
Belle Laund (O'Neil)..... 2 2 2
Molly B. (Brazier)..... 2 2 2
Time—33, 33, 33.

Judges, Lillie, Scott and Gillette.

Traffic was blocked on the main line of the Central Vermont railway for four hours Monday afternoon, due to the derailment of a car near the station in Waterbury yard. A train which left Montpelier after the arrival of the south-bound New England States Limited was going through the yard when one set of wheels of an empty coal car was thrown off the iron in such a manner that the crew had to come to Montpelier Junction for a repair car and equipment to replace it.

However, the rush hour was clear so that the northbound passenger train was able to go over that without delay, as did the southbound evening trains, due here around 6 o'clock.

Charles DeF. Bancroft, Jr., who went to Burlington last week to enlist in the signal corps, was accepted Monday morning. When he reached the office in Burlington he found that there were many to be examined, with a general complaint among the officers about lack of help. Mr. Bancroft offered to occupy his time while waiting for medical examination by helping them, with the result that one of them volunteered the information that he would be retained in some capacity in the signal corps.

However, he passed the examination and has commenced his training in the signal corps. J. Raymond Allen also passed, while Maurice Alexander was rejected.

Commissioner of Education M. B. Hillegas is well pleased with the results of the efforts of Prof. L. M. Beach in securing pupils for the vocational school which the state has commenced operating under the vocational education appropriation. However, Montpelier seems to be the sturdiest in the plan, for hardly anything has been accomplished; the young men who are liable to the draft appear to take no interest in the matter in spite of the wide publicity which the department has given the matter.

As soon as it was announced that something was to be done, some 50 appeared, or more than could be handled at that time. The work has commenced in the Packard-Cadillac garage, with 20 men and as soon as it can be arranged the work will be moved to the new building. As soon as a sufficient number have applied for the training the district manager of the Packard company has promised that a Liberty motor will be sent to the garage for the young men's training. Until that arrives, however, he has sent the blueprints of the motor and the students are using this now. H. B. Smith, the federal agent, is also in Burlington, stopped at the Proctor because of a desire to see the gas welding training. The Vermont Marble company has one of the best equipments in this part of the country and the company placed it at the disposal of the department and Mr. Smith found that the young men in that town were able to do the work. As soon as the training was given at first. Thus far these two places have gone far in excess of all other towns in the state. Barre is to have a visit from Prof. Beach soon, for he is to inspect the school in the granite business with a little school. The granite business with a little school, the granite business with a little school, the granite business with a little school.

It is said to be perfect for riveting use in shipbuilding. Mr. Hillegas hopes when Prof. Beach can explain the training and get interest in the matter, that Montpelier will rally and the young men, who want to secure a trade which will help them during the coming draft, when they find out the worth of the training, will respond as they have in other cities. Prof. Beach will visit the larger towns of the state as fast as he can.

Mrs. Harry Morse, with her daughter, left this morning for Hattiesburg, Miss., where the young man, her husband, who is stationed at Camp Shelby, has been visiting for two months with Mrs. Mabel McGibney, her sister.

Word has been received here that Leo McGibney, who is at the naval training station at Newport, R. I., is recovering from a trouble with his ears. He has been for two weeks in the base hospital, from which he was discharged last week, and he is now at the naval training station at Newport, R. I., where he is recovering from a trouble with his ears.

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DRAFT TREATY
SIGNED TO-DAY

It Is Between Great Britain
and the United
States

EACH MAY DRAFT
IN OTHER COUNTRY

Earl Reading, New British
Ambassador, Signed
the Agreement

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—The signing of the army draft treaty between Great Britain and the United States was announced to-day. The new British ambassador, Earl Reading, signed the document as his first official act.

Under the treaty the United States may draft into the military service British subjects in this country between the ages of 20 and 45. Great Britain may draft American citizens living within its jurisdiction between the ages of 21 and 41. A separate convention along the same lines is being negotiated by the state department with Canada.

MEET IN BARRE THURSDAY.

Third District of the Royal Arch Masons
Will Convene.

A prospectus has been issued for the annual convocation of the third district of royal arch Masons, which is to be held in Barre Thursday. Masons representing three chapters are to assemble with Granite chapter No. 26, of which Arthur D. Young is the lead. The usual afternoon session is to be omitted and the first meeting will be deferred until 7 o'clock in the evening, when Granite chapter will open in form and receive the grand lodge officers, after which the royal arch degree is to be conferred. A review of the work will be conducted by Frank R. Pitkin, the grand lecturer. Remarks by grand lodge officers, including George N. Tilden and Charles A. Lang, will follow. After the chapter is closed a "Hoover" lunch will be served.

Charles W. McMillan of this city is the district deputy grand high priest and arrangement for the meeting were in his charge. All royal arch Masons have been invited to participate along with the members of the following chapters: Whitney, No. 5, E. F. Kirby, E. H. P.; King Solomon, No. 7, Frank L. Burbank, E. H. P.; and Waterbury, No. 24, Truman J. Allen, E. H. P.

TO CONFER IN BOSTON.

On New England Fuel Situation and
Monday Holidays.

State Fuel Administrator H. J. M. Jones left Montpelier to-day for Boston, where he will attend a conference of the New England fuel administrators on matters pertaining to the fuel situation in New England and more especially as to the continuance of the Monday holiday in New England.

TAKEN TO STATE PRISON.

Ralph Boyce and Mrs. May Gamache to
Serve for Adultery.

Sheriff Tracy left Montpelier this afternoon for Windsor, where he will place in the state prison Ralph Boyce and Mrs. May Gamache to serve sentences for adultery, the former for not less than a year and not more than three years, and the latter for not less than 10 months and not more than three years.

TRAINS SLOWED UP.

Snowstorm To-day Seriously Hampered
Railroad Traffic.

The Central Vermont train service was badly knocked off by the snowstorm to-day, the snowfall being especially heavy in the northern part of the state. The New England States Limited train, southbound, was reported to be one and one-half hours late this afternoon.

VERMONT MAN DEAD.

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879 SCHOOL CHILDREN
OWN THRIFT STAMPS

More Than One-Third of the Total En-
rollment in Barre Schools Enlisted
in Campaign to Aid the Gov-
ernment.

Up to the present time 879 school children, or more than one-third of the total enrollment in the Barre public schools, are possessors of United States thrift or war savings stamps; and the total amount held by them is \$1,463.50, making an average of \$1.66 per child. The children are buying them faster than ever. Supt. C. H. White reports, and it is the purpose of them in the drive of the campaign to get every child, if possible, to be the holder of a government stamp.

The Mathewson school, the largest in the city, leads with a total of \$483.75, and Mrs. McCarthy's room in the building reported the greatest sales of any room in the city, having \$108 to its credit. Miss Stevens' room in the Lincoln building was second with \$60.

The total holdings among the children are as follows: